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REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's comments in the Office Action dated July 14, 2004. Claims 1-17 stand rejected. Claims 1 through 17 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7, and 12 are currently amended to reflect the scope of the claims as per the constructive phone interview of April 18. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration by the Examiner and entry of the amended claims into the record.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his time and for the constructive response during the phone interview dated April 18, 2005. The Examiner indicated that "initiate status" read too broad and may be a signal. Accordingly, as agreed, Applicants have made the minor revisions to the independent claims, namely 1, 7 and 12, to clarify that "initiate status" is not a signal, but is part of a signal containing the "initiate status." Specifically, the claims as modified claim the patently distinct method. Claim 1 requires generating a first sensor signal in response to the first initiator signal, said first sensor signal compositely having a first sensor identification and an initiate status.

Also discussed during the phone interview, the *Meyer* reference does not contain the composite portions within the sensor signal, i.e., the sensor identification and the initiate status. The *Meyer* reference discloses "the data signal containing the standard measurement data, the identification value, and possibly the long-wave identification signal will be transmitted to the control unit as a HF signal. (col. 2, lines 35-40)." There is ambiguity within the teaching of *Meyer*: 1) such as the long-wave identification signal within the data signal, but the data signal contains other data parts not other signals, and 2) the use of the words "possibly" or "will" presents confusion as to what the long-wave identification signal of *Meyer* even entails. Therefore, the narrowing of the present claim indicates that the sensor signal compositely contains the sensor identification and the initiate status, thereby indicating that the initiate status is not a signal, but is part of a signal. Moreover, In order to avoid impermissible hindsight reconstruction of the claims, each claim should not be used as a roadmap to reconstruct what is taught or suggested in the prior art.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Meyer et al.* (U.S. Pat. 5,880,363). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 requires generating a first sensor signal in response to the first initiator signal, the first sensor signal compositely having a first sensor identification and an initiate status. *Meyer* does not disclose generating a first sensor signal in response to the first initiator signal,

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the first sensor signal compositely having a first sensor identification and an initiate status. Moreover, *Meyer* fails to teach or suggest the elements as required by the claims as indicated above during the phone interview of April 18. Therefore, the *Meyer* reference fails to teach or suggest generating a first sensor signal in response to the first initiator signal, the first sensor signal compositely having a first sensor identification and an initiate status. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn as *Meyer* fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of Independent Claim 1.

In the Final Office Action, claims 2, and 4-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Meyer et al.* (U.S. Pat. 5,880,363) in view of *Mendez et al.* (U.S. Pat. 5,612,671). Applicants respectfully traverse.

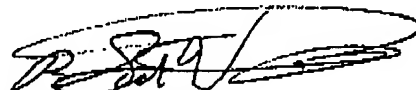
Applicants believe that Independent Claims 7 and 12 are allowable for the same reasons mentioned above regarding Claim 1 and during the phone interview.

Applicants respectfully incorporate herein all of the other arguments contained in the Request for Reconsideration dated October 12, 2004.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that Claims 1-17 are allowable and in a proper condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C §103(a) be withdrawn, and a Notice of Allowance indicating the same is therefore earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney at (248) 223-9500 if any unresolved matters remain.

Respectfully Submitted,

ARTZ & ARTZ P.C.



R. Scott Vincent
Reg. No. 55,771
28333 Telegraph Road, Suite 250
Southfield, MI 48034
(248) 223-9500

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